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# DEPART

A PHOTOGRAPHIC  
TRAVEL & ADVENTURE GUIDE

*words by*  
JOOST BASTMEIJER

The next generation's photographer is here, and he tends to do things differently. He's got no time for conventions, dares to stand out from the crowd, and just grabs his camera and heads out. Every imperfect picture develops the autodidact photographer's talent for taking a photo at exactly the right moment, of exactly the right subject. But the new photographer started out just like any other photographer - with a device full of buttons, and initially no idea how to capture the world's beauty he

sees with his naked eye. Although that phase, as is evident in this book, has long passed. When the new, mobile photographer uploads his shot from the top of the mountain, he immediately gets feedback from his massive following on social media. On the internet, everything comes together. Through the web, the new photographer finds others, who just like him, use their online channels as their canvas. He easily gets in touch with like-minded people from all over the world. They share their pictures, their stories, their tips and their

tricks. Inspiring each other, the new photographers share a genuine feeling of connectedness — the visual language of photography is a powerful one.

The new class of photographers meets up with each other, often without having talked in real life before. Although you might think that that's an awkward occasion (and it sometimes is, I've been there), it normally goes pretty smoothly. This has a lot to do with the fact that these photographers from all over the world have been following each other's moves for a long time, so they already know quite a lot about each other's lives. The meet-ups or so-called "photo walks" are the perfect moments for portrait experiments — a picture always gets better if you have someone to place in that Insta-famous "mountain-reflects-in-lake-with-pier"-shot.

Because the new photographer is already in contact with people from all over, it's easier for him to simply depart, to get on a plane and fly wherever. With healthy naivety and a dash of courage, he meets up with people who live completely different lives on the other side of the world. It doesn't really matter how otherworldly

that experience may be — the love of photography is often so strong that the like-mindedness breaks down every barrier of social and cultural difference. The potential for lasting friendships is large. Every photographer shares where their courage and inexhaustible enthusiasm has gotten them, which gives you a unique overview of some very pretty places. From Cape Town to Iceland and from the Dutch Veluwe National Park to the exotic streets of Bangkok — the "rising online photographers" of *Depart* are always on the lookout for unique locations. But most of them aren't mountaineers, so it shouldn't be too hard for you, too, to visit the places they shoot. Let them carry you away to the most beautiful places this world has to offer — whoever uses this book as a wanderlust generator won't be disappointed.

**“On the internet, everything comes together. Through the web, the new photographer finds others who just like him use their online channels as their canvas.”**

— Joost Bastmeijer







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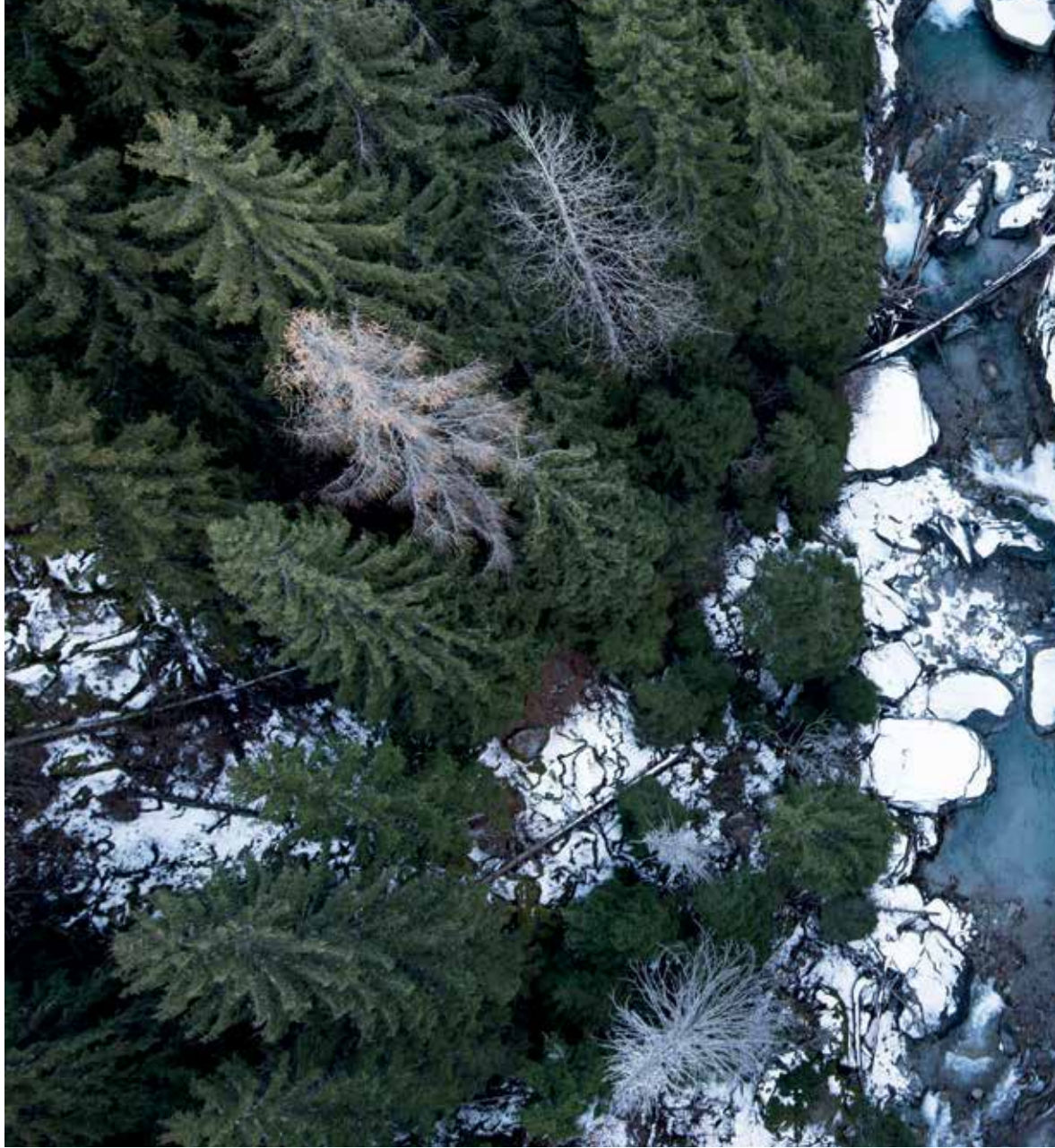


**Klöntalersee** The Klöntalersee, a natural lake in the canton of Glarus, was created by a landslide. It may be reached by bus or car. At an elevation of 848m, it covers an area of about 3.3km<sup>2</sup>. In the morning it is most beautiful, because the water is very still. There are 3 large waterfalls on the lake.

Andre Stummer @andrestummer

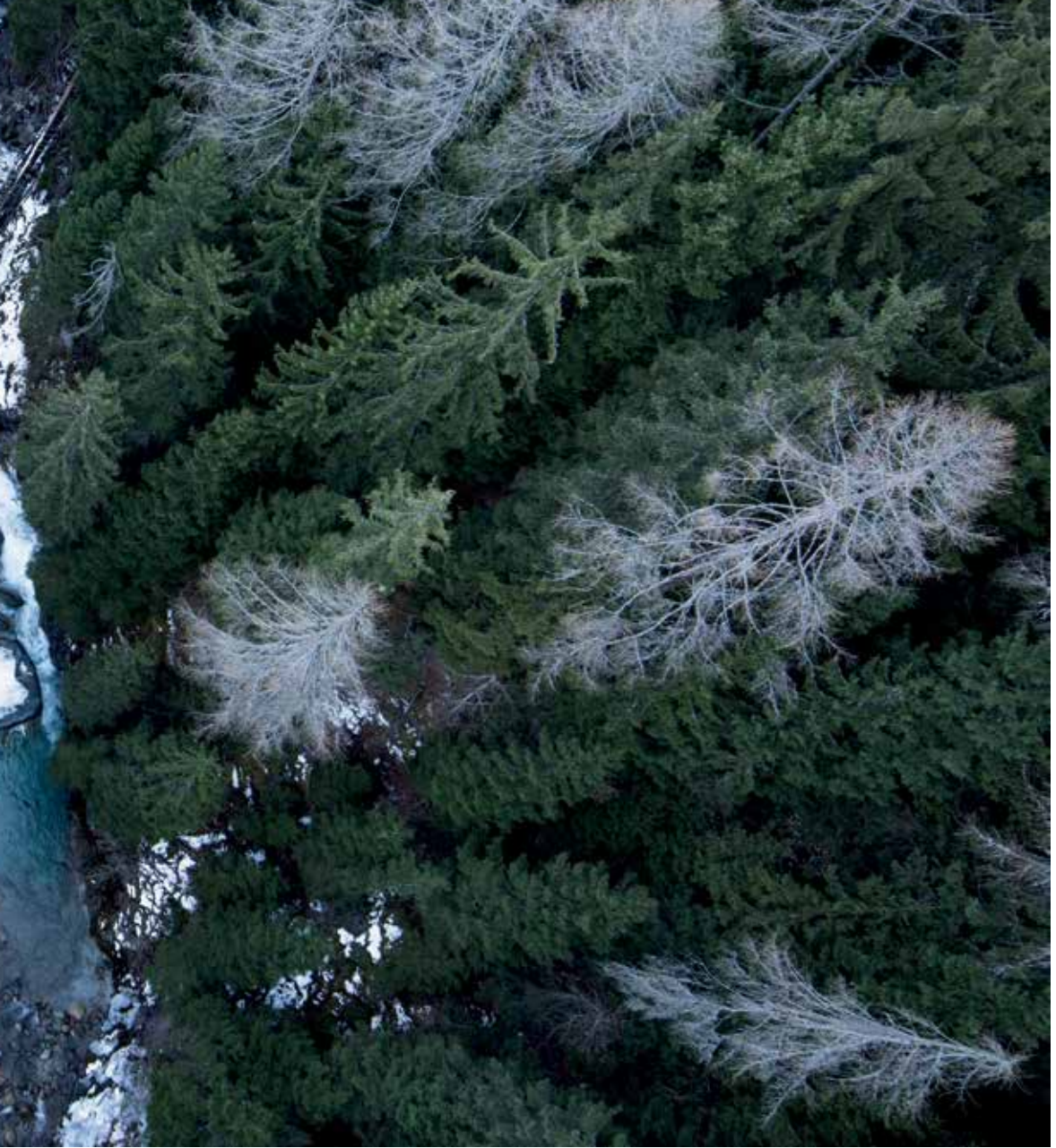
# NEVER MIND THE WEATHER

LOCATION Glarus, Switzerland COORDINATES 47°01'27.9"N 8°56'51.5"E  
PHOTOGRAPHER Andre Stummer, Arth Goldau, Switzerland @andrestummer



“It doesn’t matter who takes the best photos, but what feeling the photos give you.” If you visit the Instagram account of the 29-year old photographer Andre Stummer, you’ll see this quotation above his mountain-filled photo feed. The lion’s share of his 2000+ photos is taken in the land of Alps, cheese, watches and chocolate — Switzerland.

Andre mostly travels the country on his own: “I mostly travel by car, and I sleep in my tent,” he says. “It’s great to just ride the cable car to the top of one of the Alps and start a hike through the mountains. I love to go back to the same areas. It doesn’t matter if it’s raining, snowing or if the sun shines — the Swiss alps always look different.”



↑ **Bellwald** Bellwald is a small mountain village in the Valais. In the summer of 2015, a new suspension bridge, 280m long and 1.40m wide, opened. It is available all year round for pedestrians, wheelchairs, and bicycles. The middle point of the bridge offers a unique view.



**The Lötschental** The Lötschental in the Upper Valais is the largest northern tributary of the Rhone in Switzerland. Located in the Jungfrau-Aletsch-Bietschhorn area of Bernese Alps, it is a UNESCO World Heritage protected site. About 27 kilometers long, it comprises 150 square kilometers. The glaciers of the Lötschental cover 13.7 percent of the area. Especially in spring, it is very interesting to explore the glacier caves.





**“ I love to go back to the same areas. It doesn't matter if it's raining, snowing or if the sun shines - the Swiss alps always look different. ”**

**- Andre Stummer**





↑ **The Engadine** The Engadine is a 1600-1800m high valley with lakes marked (Engadine lakes: Lake Sils, Silvaplana, Lej da Champfer and St. Moritz). Easy to reach by train or car, the Engadine offers many walking-tour companies.

← **The Seealpsee** The Seealpsee is located in the Canton of Appenzell, which is known for their famous cheese. The best time to visit this lake is in November, because there are less tourists and the sun shines in the valley until late. Seealpsee is a lake in the Alpstein range of the canton of Appenzell Inner Rhodes, at elevation of 1,143.2 m.

Andre now lives in Switzerland, but was actually born in Germany. He says, “I was born near Berlin, but I’m glad I now live in Switzerland.” As you can see from the photos, Andre isn’t really a homebody — he’s in the Swiss outdoors a lot. “It’s truly a breathtaking wonderland,” he says, “with so many mountains, lakes, cities and people. Switzerland is always worth a visit.”